

**IMPERIAL VALLEY REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
Adopted Minutes

Meeting of October 16, 2025
Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Main Office

CALL TO ORDER: Alicia Armenta called the meeting to order at 6:31 a.m. The following persons were present:

Alicia Armenta, Board President, Imperial County Office of Education
Fabiola Calderon, Calexico Unified School District
Deby Ellet, Board Member, Central Union High School District
Elvira Hernandez, Imperial Unified School District
Larry Iten, Holtville Unified School District
Raul Navarro, Board Member, Calipatria Unified School District
Gloria Santillan, Clerk of the Board, Brawley Union High School District
Gabriel Aguirre, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Vicente Ayala, Director of Business & Human Services, Imperial Valley ROP
Adrian Gonzales, Program Manager II, Imperial Valley ROP
Adriana Hernandez, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Edwin P. Obergfell, Superintendent, Imperial Valley ROP
Maria Pantoja, Project Coordinator, Imperial Valley ROP
Wendy Ramirez, Office Manager, Imperial Valley ROP
Stephanie Sandoval, Data Manager, Imperial Valley ROP

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Alicia Armenta led the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS: None.

INTRODUCTIONS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS: Edwin Obergfell introduced Adrian Gonzales, IVROP Program Manager II.

CONSENT AGENDA: A motion was made by Gloria Santillan and seconded by Deby Ellett to approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented. ***Motion carried unanimously.***

- Minutes of September 11, 2025, Regular Meeting;
- August '25 Warrant Order #'s: 26337910-26337961; and September '25 Warrant Order #'s: 26338618-26338715, 26339591-26339656, 26340414-2634083, 26341611-26341656.

PERSONNEL: **APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL.** A motion was made by Gloria Santillan and seconded by Fabiola Calderon to approve the appointment of personnel Melanie Miranda Olivar, Carolina Ramirez, Aaron Robles, and Jesus Servin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Elvira Hernandez arrived at 6:36 a.m.

RESIGNATION. A motion was made by Elvira Hernandez and seconded by Deby Ellett to approve the resignation of Ofelia Arellano, Alberto Cid, Jhonathon Parra, and Lynessa Tabarez. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS: **ACCEPT THE CONTINUATION OF.** A motion was made by Deby Ellett and seconded by Elvira Hernandez to accept continuation for Carl Perkins 131 (\$121,544) and WorkAbility (\$182,145). **Motion carried unanimously.**

ACCEPT FUNDING OF. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board that the no cost extension for the READY4Life IVROPCF current grant had also been approved. A motion was made by Fabiola Calderon and seconded by Larry Iten to accept funding for READYforLife (\$1,000,000). **Motion carried unanimously.**

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. Edwin P. Obergfell thanked the board for providing feedback on the Executive Director job description. He said Wendy Ramirez had made the changes requested by the board. The Executive Director job description has been submitted to the attorney for their review.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH TIMELINE. Edwin P. Obergfell said the Executive Director Search Timeline was revised as requested by the board. A motion was made by Fabiola Calderon and seconded by Deby Ellett to approve the revised Executive Director Search Timeline. **Motion carried unanimously.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

MONTHLY BUDGET UPDATE. Vicente Ayala provided the Monthly Budget Update. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board that the California Minimum Wage would be increasing on January 1st. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board that a salary schedule would be provided to the board at the November board meeting to include the California Minimum Wage increase.

IVROP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board that the IVROPCF Board had met on October 7, 2025. The board approved the 2026 event coordinator, Anne Irigoyen. The IVROPCF READY4Life no cost extension was approved. The new READY4Life grant was awarded to IVROP. Edwin P. Obergfell shared information regarding the new fundraising campaign to raise money for scholarships. The board approved a new \$1,500 sponsorship level. The board requested a list of current IVROPCF sponsors. Ticket prices will remain at \$125 per ticket. Edwin P. Obergfell thanked Wendy Ramirez for securing the vendors. The Stars will be reminded to sell three to five tables.

CTE UPDATE. Adriana Hernandez provided the CTE Update. The Regional Advisory Meeting was held on October 3rd at IVC. The general session featured updates from IVC Dean Efrain Silva, IVC Student Success Specialist Armando Nevarez on early college credit opportunities, and COE Research Analyst John Edwards, who shared insights on regional labor market trends, high-wage in-demand careers, and equity gaps. After the general session, six industry breakout sessions were provided. Approximately 108 attendees attended the meeting. IVROP is the lead of the Small Schools Perkins Consortium. The Perkins Consortium Meeting was held on September 22nd at

IVROP. San Pasqual, Calipatria, Imperial, Holtville, and Mt. Empire are part of the Perkins Consortium and sent a district representative to the meeting. The K12 Strong Workforce Program Round 8 application was submitted. September 30th was the deadline to submit CTSO leadership applications. She mentioned the upcoming events.

PRESENTATION: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: Edwin P. Obergfell addressed the letter from ICOE, J. Todd Finnell, Ed.D., County Superintendent of Schools.

LEGISLATION: None.

OTHER: **ARTICLES.** Alicia Armenta referred to the Imperial Valley Press articles dated October 3, 4, 2025.

EVENTS. Edwin P. Obergfell extended an invitation to the board to the events.

IVROP/IVROPCF NEWSLETTERS. None.

**BOARD AND
SUPERINTENDENT
COMMENTS:**

Alicia Armenta thanked the IVROP grant writing team. She also thanked everyone for all the work they do.

Fabiola Calderon had no comment.

Deby Ellett said the CTE Advisory was awesome and educational. She was really impressed with the great experience.

Elvira Hernandez had no comment.

Larry Iten thanked Edwin P. Obergfell and staff.

Raul Navarro shared information regarding the ELPS money. He commented on the need for Life Skills and Employability skills for young people.

Gloria Santillan said thank you for explaining the CTSO process.

Edwin P. Obergfell shared the Responsible Fatherhood, Health Marriage and Relationship and the READY4Life grants were submitted. The Responsible Fatherhood, Health Marriage and Relationship were not funded but were scored highly. He said Wendy Ramirez and Vicente Ayala were involved in all the grants. Stephanie Sandoval provided data for the grants. Edwin P. Obergfell reminded the board that he will be out on vacation from December 1st through December 12th. Gabriel Aguirre will be in Edwin P. Obergfell's place for the December board meeting. He said the minimum wage increase will be brought to the board next month for their review. October is Cancer awareness month. The board requested to be provided with updated project information at the next board meeting. Edwin P. Obergfell informed the board that the project information would be updated on the IVROP website.

NEXT MEETING: The next IVROP Board Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 6:30 a.m., at Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program (IVROP) Main Office.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:49 a.m.